



SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD
Washington, DC 20423

Office of Economics, Environmental Analysis and Administration

February 12, 2004

Jeffrey Moreno, Esq.
Michael Higgins, Esq.
Thompson Hine LLP
1920 N Street, NW
Washington, DC 20036-1600

Re: STB Finance Docket 34421, HolRail, LLC – Construction and Operation
Exemption – In Orangeburg and Dorchester Counties, South Carolina

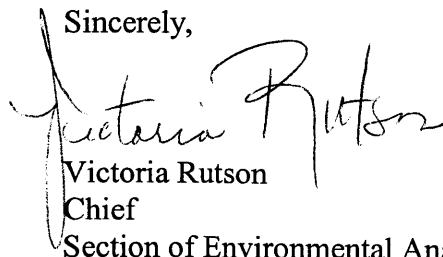
Dear Messrs. Moreno and Higgins:

The Surface Transportation Board's (Board) Section of Environmental Analysis (SEA) is approving, under 49 CFR 1105.10(d), Parsons as the independent third-party consultant for the above-cited proceeding. Parsons will assist the Board in preparing the appropriate environmental document in connection with Holrail LLC's (Holrail or applicant) exemption petition to construct and operate a rail line in Orangeburg and Dorchester counties, South Carolina.

We have attached a disclosure statement that you should forward to Parsons to complete and return to us. As we previously discussed, SEA will direct, supervise, review, and approve all environmental documents prepared by the independent third-party consultant in this proceeding. Additionally, we must execute a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) which outlines the responsibilities of the applicant, the consultant and SEA. The MOU should be signed by the applicant, forwarded to Parson for signature, and returned to SEA. The purpose of the MOU is to establish an understanding between the applicant, the consultant, and SEA regarding the conditions and procedures each party must follow in preparing all environmental documentation. Dave Navecky of my staff can provide you the latest template of the MOU.

If we can be of further assistance, please contact Dave Navecky at 202-565-1593.

Sincerely,



Victoria Rutson
Chief
Section of Environmental Analysis

Enclosure

SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BOARD

DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

On behalf of Parsons, I certify that Parsons has no financial or other interests in the outcome of the prospective petition in STB Finance Docket 34421, HolRail, LLC - Construction and Operation Exemption - In Orangeburg and Dorchester Counties, South Carolina.

Signature: _____

Printed Name: _____

Title: _____

Date: _____